

OPINION 1329

GALAGO CRASSICAUDATUS E. GEOFFROY, 1812 (PRIMATES,
GALIGIDAE): NEOTYPE DESIGNATED

RULING. — (1) Under the plenary powers all designations of type specimen hitherto made for the nominal species *Galago crassicaudatus* E. Geoffroy, 1812 are hereby set aside and the specimen described by Olson, 1980, is hereby designated as neotype of that species.

(2) The specific name *crassicaudatus* E. Geoffroy, 1812, as published in the binomen *Galago crassicaudatus*. and as defined by reference to the neotype designated under the plenary powers in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2981.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2285

An application for the designation of a neotype for *Galago crassicaudatus* E. Geoffroy, 1812 was first received from Dr T. R. Olsen (now of City University of New York, U.S.A.) on 29 September 1978. After some correspondence a revised draft was sent to the printers on 9 October 1979 and published on 25 September 1980 in *Bull. zool. Nom.*, vol. 37, pp. 176–185. Public notice of the possible use of plenary powers was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to six general and two specialist serials. The application was supported by W. F. H. Ansell (*St. Ives, Cornwall, U.K.*). No adverse comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 13 September 1984 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month rule on Voting Paper (1984)60 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 37, p. 181 At the close of the voting period on 13 December 1984 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes—eighteen (18) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Cocks, Brinck, Hahn, Mroczkowski, Willink, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Starobogatov, Sabrosky, Alvarado, Ride, Kraus, Corliss, Schuster, Bayer, Heppell

Negative Votes—two (2) Dupuis, Binder.

Lehtinen was on leave of absence. No votes were received from Bernardi, Cogger, Halvorsen and Savage.

The following comments were returned by Commissioners with their voting papers:

Dupuis: La requête mise aux voix concerne essentiellement des questions *taxinomiques*. Elle n'apporte que des informations nomenclatoriales insuffisantes (quelles sont les autres espèces et sous-espèces en cause? Quelle est l'espèce-type d' *Otolemur*? Quels sont le statut, l'auteur et la date de

garnettii?). Elle ne donne aucune certitude taxinomique (Pourquoi, en 1951 encore, le spécimen de Londres était-il déterminé *garnettii*? Pourquoi, en 1963 encore, y avait-il des divergences quant à l'identité spécifique du crâne de Paris?). Des requérants, fussent-ils docteurs de 1979, peuvent certes estimer leurs avis taxinomiques plus déterminants que ceux de leurs devanciers. Ils doivent cependant, à l'instar de ceux-ci, avant de porter atteinte au statut des types, soumettre leurs éléments d'appréciation aux jugements de la collectivité zoologique sous une forme autre que celle d'une thèse plus ou moins microfilmable.

En ces conditions, j'estime qu'il n'y a pas matière à un vote de nomenclature et, à tout le moins, qu'on ne peut pas voter objectivement. Je vote toutefois contre, en considération de deux postulats de méthode et d'éthique: 1) un néotype constitue toujours un faux historique; 2) le BM (NH) possède assez de types et n'a nul besoin de s'enrichir d'un néotype contestable!

Binder: 'The holotype of *Galago crassicaudatus* E. Geoffroy is not lost and has been usable since it was established. We cannot start replacing old types just because somebody has a better specimen.'

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following is the original reference to a name placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

crassicaudatus, *Galago*, E. Geoffroy, 1812, *Ann. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris*, vol. 19, p. 166.

The following is the original reference to the proposition of a neotype for *Galago crassicaudatus* E. Geoffroy, 1812:

Olsen, T. R. 1980. *Bull. zool. Nom.*, vol. 37, pp. 182–183.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (84)60 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1329.

R. V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

20 February 1985